

Postgraduate Year Two (PGY-2) Cardiology Pharmacy Residency Program

VA Tennessee Valley Healthcare System



Program Overview

The VA Tennessee Valley Healthcare System (TVHS) is an integrated healthcare system comprised of two medical centers (the Nashville campus in Nashville, TN, and the Alvin C. York Campus in Murfreesboro, TN) and more than 10 community based outpatient



clinics located in Tennessee and Kentucky. TVHS provides primary care, secondary care, specialized tertiary care, transplant services, and a full range of extended care and mental health services. The facility operates 118 medicine,

51 surgery, 31 critical care beds (25 at the Nashville campus) and 238 community living center beds. Each year nearly 11,100 episodes of care are provided in the hospital and the community living centers and over 1,000,000 outpatient visits are made annually.

The Nashville Campus is the only VHA facility in the nation that supports all solid organ transplant programs, including cardiac transplant. The Nashville Campus is primarily affiliated with Vanderbilt University School of Medicine with fellowship programs in cardiology and cardiac surgery.

The cardiology pharmacy PGY2 residency is a one-year specialty program that offers clinical experiences in acute care cardiology (cardiology critical care [CCU], step-down cardiology [consult services], cardiac transplant), and a longitudinal cardiology pharmacy telephone clinic. In the 2015-2016 academic year, bone marrow transplant will be added as a pre-requisite to cardiac transplant.

Pharmacists completing this program will have the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to provide cardiovascular pharmacotherapy services as a member of the interprofessional team. A focus of the residency is advanced understanding of cardiology guidelines, development of complex decision making skills in a fast paced environment, literature evaluation abilities, and a knowledge base that is transferable across practice areas and based on clinical evidence. The resident will develop personal preceptor skills through presentation experiences and student teaching.

Requirements For Consideration:

- Enrolled in or successful completion of a PGY1 Pharmacy Practice Residency
- Doctor of Pharmacy degree from an ACPE accredited School of Pharmacy
- U.S. citizenship for Federal employment
- Licensure in the state of Tennessee if planning to request one non-VA elective rotation

Application Materials:

- Letter of intent
- Curriculum vitae (CV)
- Three (3) letters of recommendation
- Official pharmacy school transcript
- OF 306 (Declaration for Federal Employment)

Interview offered to eligible candidates upon initial review of application materials and is required for final consideration.

Early Commitment:

A resident currently participating in the PGY1 VATVHS residency may be eligible for consideration for the PGY2 residency in Cardiology through the early commitment process. Interested residents should submit a letter of interest and participate in an interview with the PGY2 residency program director and/or recruitment team. Letters should identify what the resident hopes to accomplish through the PGY2 residency and be hand delivered to the PGY2 and PGY1 residency directors by December 1. Selected applicant will be notified no later than December 10.

Interview Notification Date

- Candidates will be notified of interview status no later than February 15

Match Rules

- This residency site agrees that no person at this site will solicit, accept, or use any ranking-related information from any residency applicant.

Appointment of applicants

- Appointment is contingent upon satisfactory completion of a physical exam, including negative drug test. Applicants must meet requirements for federal employment. As this is a PGY2 program, residents are required to be licensed in any state prior to the residency start date.

Inpatient Experiences:

- CCU
- Cardiology Consult Service
- Heart Failure
- Transplant

More than 75% of the residency will be spent providing inpatient cardiovascular services in the areas listed above. The resident will be responsible for reviewing and monitoring pharmacotherapy



for the purpose of identifying, preventing and resolving drug related problems with the interprofessional team. In the CCU, the resident will work directly with the cardiology critical care team comprised of medical interns, residents, a cardiology fellow and an attending cardiologist. On general cardiology, heart failure, and transplant inpatient services, the resident will work with a small consulting team rendering recommendations to the primary medical teams. The pharmacy resident will serve as the drug therapy specialist as well as a pharmacy educa-

tor, actively participating in team meetings and bedside rounds. Interventions will be recorded in the medical record.

Outpatient Experience:

As much as 25% of the residency will be spent providing outpatient cardiovascular services in the area listed below following orientation to heart failure physical assessment. Outpatient clinic responsibilities will include ordering of lab tests, consults, procedures, and medications as well as assuring timely follow-up either in clinic or by telephone. All interventions will be recorded in the medical record. The resident will be supervised by a clinical pharmacy specialist preceptor and/or physician/nurse practitioner preceptor.

Longitudinal Clinic (Resident initiated):

- Heart Failure Post Discharge Telephone Clinic

The resident will be responsible for identifying, preventing and resolving drug related problems at the transition to home for patients with a recent heart failure emergency room visit or hospital admission.

Number of positions: 1

Deadline for application: January 1

Residency start date: June 15, 2014

Estimated stipend: ~\$44,500

Fringe benefits: Health and life insurance, 10 paid Federal holidays, 13 accrued vacation/annual leave days, 13 accrued sick days, professional leave to attend meetings and educational conferences, dual appointment available for additional reimbursement.

Electives:

Electives are designed to broaden the resident's experience in patient populations which complicate cardiovascular medication management. Rotations under the supervisions of pharmacists or other members of the interprofessional team include any rotation available in the PGY1 curriculum (limited to two months)*, acute medicine, SICU/SSU, anticoagulation, or arrhythmia inpatient service and outpatient clinic*.

*These are possible and are to be developed based upon individual resident(s) interest, goals, and selected career path.

Layered Learning:

The PGY2 residency is affiliated with a large PGY1 pharmacy residency program and multiple colleges of pharmacy. The pharmacy team includes an attending pharmacist responsible for all aspects of the patient-centered care and a combination of residents (PGY1 and/or PGY2) and student(s) functioning as extenders who provide expanded clinical patient care services. No member of the pharmacy team is a passive observer. The education sessions with all learners promote active learning through topic discussions pertaining directly to patients' disease states and medications, rather than a general topic discussion that may not relate to a patient on the service. The PGY2 resident will co-precept pharmacy students and PGY1 residents



Teaching Certificate:

An optional teaching certificate program is available through Lipscomb University College of Pharmacy.

Contact Information:

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